

## NEATLY PLANNED

Was the Surprise Tendered to  
Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Littell.

## FIFTH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Of the United Presbyterian Church's  
Pastor and his Wife Made the Occa-  
sion of the Affair Planned by the  
Congregation—Induced to go Driv-  
ing They Were Surprised on Their  
Return Home—A Happy Affair.

Of the social functions productive of  
the fullest measure of enjoyment there  
is none akin to a genuine surprise party,  
and it was this pleasing sort of af-  
fair of which Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Lit-  
tell were the victims last night, the oc-  
casion being the fifth anniversary of  
their wedding.

The surprise was neatly planned by  
the congregation of the First United  
Presbyterian church, some weeks ago,  
the ladies being particularly active in  
furthering its success, and since the veil  
of secrecy pertaining thereto was not  
punctured in the meantime, the stand-  
ard witticism about women being un-  
able to keep a secret loses much of its  
value.

The affair was neatly planned, indeed.  
Early in the evening Mr. Samuel Par-  
ker, who lives near the minister's  
home, on Fourteenth street, prevailed  
on Rev. and Mrs. Littell to go out driv-  
ing with him. This step, of course, had  
been prearranged with other members  
of the church, who, according to the  
outlined plan, went to the Littell home  
shortly afterward. Entrance was gained  
by a piece of strategy, and the ladies  
lost no time in decorating the parlors  
with amplex and other floral adornments.  
Other hands were busy in "setting the  
tables," and everything was in "apple  
pie order" ere Mr. Parker and his car-  
riage drove up to the door, an incident  
occurring about 8:30 o'clock.

Instead of the darkened interior they  
left, the pastor and his wife were con-  
fronted by an animated scene. In a few  
moments the truth dawned on them,  
and both were visibly affected by the  
demonstration in their behalf. Then  
there followed happy greetings on all  
sides, during which Mr. and Mrs. Lit-  
tell held an informal reception, while  
they were besieged with hearty con-  
gratulations and substantial testimo-  
nials of the esteem the congregation  
holds for their pastor and his wife. The  
fifth wedding anniversary is designated  
as "the wooden wedding," by the un-  
written customs governing these anni-  
versaries, consequently furniture pre-  
dominated in the large number of hand-  
some presents. Chinaware also figured.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable even-  
ing, and one that will be especially  
treasured in fond memory by the recipi-  
ents of the surprise. During his pas-  
torate, Rev. Mr. Littell and his estimable  
wife have endeavored themselves to a  
circle which extends beyond his charge.  
At the affair were several people from  
neighboring towns.

## WEEKLY OIL REVIEW:

The market, advancing with rapid  
strides, has created the greatest an-  
xiety on the part of some operators,  
who dropped out during the depression  
to get into line again. The question,  
"Where can I get hold of some terri-  
tory?" is the most frequently heard,  
and is not an easy one to answer, and  
the operator, who is sincerely in ear-  
nest, will find the only possible way to  
get the information will be to start out  
and search for it, and there is little use  
of his beginning his investigation out-  
side of West Virginia, or southeastern  
Ohio. Another thing he will have to  
bear in mind is, that he has some hard  
work before him if he accomplishes his  
purpose. He will find that others have  
been there before him and they did not  
tramp over the country with their eyes  
closed. Experienced operators or their  
representatives have been all over the  
ground, and they have not overlooked  
opportunities.

The expansion of a pool or develop-  
ment frequently brings outlying terri-  
tory that looked worthless at one stage  
within the producing limits, and the op-  
erator must be on the ground and act  
promptly if he wants a slice of it. It  
takes more capital to engage in the  
business now than formerly, and unless  
the would-be operator has a good fat  
bank account he had better leave it  
alone for, in a short time, a few un-  
successful ventures can make a good sized  
bank account look sick.

Occasionally one hears of operators of  
small means making a winning, but  
they are the exceptions. There is prac-  
tically no room for the novice in the  
business, while there are so many of  
large capital and experience watching  
developments. The price of all kinds of  
material has advanced until it is now  
double that of a year ago, and the land  
owner refuses to lease when develop-  
ments come his way without receiving  
a big bonus and rental consideration  
about equal to the actual value of the  
land for agricultural purposes unless  
operations begin within a stipulated  
time.

The daily and monthly field reports  
show a vast amount of work under  
way in the lower southwest, but it is  
located mainly in the old developments,  
or narrow extensions. The larger com-  
panies that have kept the drill bounc-  
ing through all seasons are as much  
perplexed as the individual or smaller  
concerns to know where to look for a  
new pool. The larger companies have  
been able to hold in reserve some new  
discoveries awaiting the full develop-  
ment of older pools, but if any such  
company, large or small, has any such  
knowledge at this time, it is being care-  
fully guarded from the public.

In Harrison and Doddridge counties,  
in West Virginia, in what has been des-  
ignated as the Wolf Summit and Jar-  
visville developments, there is marked  
activity. It has been more than a year  
since attention was called to the Jar-  
visville country, but only in the past  
few months has there been any great  
activity. The wells average between  
twenty and thirty barrels a day, and  
the oil is found at a depth of from 2,500  
to 2,800 feet. It can readily be seen  
that the present market price of crude  
is none too high to make it profitable  
to operate that territory. The price of  
material is a matter for serious consid-  
eration when operating outside of the  
shallow sand district.

A vast amount of territory, in both  
West Virginia and southeastern Ohio,  
has been drilled over in the past four  
years, and Elk Fork, in Tyler county,  
has been the only development to reach  
a daily output of 10,000 barrels, and  
then for only the briefest period. The  
narrow spur to the northeast of that  
pool has been under development for  
some months and that alone has kept it  
from dropping out of sight.

The two deep sand developments in

Wetzel and Monongalia counties have  
been the most fruitful in new produc-  
tion of any part of the lower south-  
west during the past two years. Both  
of these, including Flat Run and the  
Stringtown developments, can be safely  
regarded as defined, and throughout the  
region there is nothing that promises  
to equal any one of them in size or pro-  
duction. Any one familiar with Eastern  
field developments can see that in the  
whole producing area there is nothing  
of a bearish nature in sight.

Producing territory was never in so  
great demand nor commanded so good  
a price. Very little producing property  
is offered on the market, and if one is  
to judge from the price paid for a block  
sold at public sale, located in the Mc-  
Donald field, during the past week, the  
value has almost doubled in the past  
two years. It must be understood,  
however, that the value of the old ma-  
terial or junk is taken into account and  
in this instance was rated of equal  
value with production (126 barrels), for  
which \$136,000 was paid.

## AMUSEMENTS.



The ensemble of Sousa's band is per-  
fection. The magnificent sonority of  
his bass, the mellow, almost appealing  
voicing of his tenors, the absorbing im-  
pulse of his soprano and the velvety  
shading of his alto not only satisfies the  
critical, but captures in spite of them-  
selves the public universal. Since last  
heard in this city Sousa's superb or-  
ganization has won many new laurels,  
and the great composer and conductor  
pronounces his present corps of instru-  
mentalists the best he has ever had  
under his direction. Sousa will give  
two concerts at the Wheeling Park Ca-  
sino, next Sunday, afternoon and even-  
ing.

## "A Bell Boy"

The newest thing in a musical farce  
comedy line is "A Bell Boy," which will  
be presented at the Grand Opera House  
on Thursday evening next. "A Bell  
Boy" is built for laughing purposes only  
and in this it succeeds admirably, and  
the fun is of a clean and wholesome  
order. The mechanical and electrical  
effects, new and novel, and the cast  
one of the strongest now touring this  
country. The engagement is for a half  
week, with the usual Saturday matinee.

## "The Three Musketeers."

Harry Glazier, the young romantic  
actor, who appears at the Opera House  
next Thursday, September 21, in "The  
Three Musketeers," has a new arrange-  
ment of the stirring drama; the work  
of Edmund Day. This fact will give  
added interest to Mr. Glazier's produc-  
tion, especially as he claims that his  
version is equal, if not superior, to any  
of the others. In the character of  
Richelieu, Mr. Glazier has made a wide  
departure from stage tradition; he has  
instructed that the Cardinal be made  
up and played as Dumas described him.  
The story of Dumas' immortal "muske-  
teers" has been followed with compar-  
ative accuracy and completeness. Mr.  
Glazier's D'Artagnan is said to be a  
picturesque, vital and unconventional  
rendering of the quick-witted, reckless  
swashbuckler, and associated with him  
are Warren F. Hill, as Louis XIII, John  
F. Barrett, (Richelieu); Alexander  
Randolph, (Duke of Buckingham);  
Lawrence Underwood, Athos; Thomas  
R. Findlay, Porthos; L. G. Ingraham,  
Aramis; George C. Denton, DeTreville;  
Vall de Vernon, Miladi (Lady de Win-  
ter); Blanche Stoddard, Anne of Aus-  
tria, and Madge Tucker Constance.

## "Battles of Our Nation."

The interest displayed in the ap-  
pearance here of "Battles of Our Na-  
tion," with all its attendant banner bill  
of specialties, and Contorno's famous  
concert band, next Saturday and Sun-  
day, at Mozart Park, is not confined to  
Wheeling and suburban towns, by any  
means. Within a radius of one hundred  
miles people will flock to Wheeling  
both days, for excursion rates are of-  
fered by the Baltimore & Ohio, Wheel-  
ing & Lake Erie, Ohio River and Cleve-  
land, Lorain & Wheeling railways.  
When it is considered that 125 people  
are in this colossal show the wonder is  
that Wheeling should be visited, but  
Wheeling and her neighboring towns  
are equally appreciative with the met-  
ropolitan cities in patronizing a recog-  
nized masterpiece when given the  
chance, hence it is no idle boast to pre-  
dict the profits of the venture.

For the benefit of the school children  
they will be admitted for ten cents at  
the Saturday matinee, and they will  
learn more history that afternoon  
than in a year from the text-books.  
Deaves' Royal Automaton will tickle  
their risibilities, as one of the many  
side features.

## "His Better Half"

One of the funniest farce comedies  
which has ever appeared in Wheeling,  
is "His Better Half," which opened an  
engagement at the Grand Opera House  
last night. The piece has a plot, but it  
is not heavy, and it affords abundant  
opportunities for the introduction of  
novel specialties. Bogle and Graham, a  
famous vaudeville team, have promi-  
nent parts in the cast, and their fun is  
of the infectious sort. The former's  
imitation of Sousa is a fitting and fun-  
ny finale to the second act, while the  
"Sis Hopkins" special of Miss Graham  
is a side-splitting performance. "His  
Better Half" is a winner and will be  
repeated to-night.

## A Watery Grave.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—A boat contain-  
ing the captain and eleven men from  
the French steamer Dunrae, reported  
on Saturday to have foundered off the  
island of Elba in the Mediterranean, is  
feared to have sunk with all on board.  
The Dunrae, which was formerly the  
Alegria, was commanded by Captain  
Coste and was last reported at Mar-  
seilles on August 5, from New Orleans.  
Part of the crew were saved, according  
to the first dispatch.

## Don't Believe It.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—A dispatch to  
Reuters from Hong Kong, says ad-  
vices from Manila announce that Ag-  
uineldo is willing to release all sick  
and civilian Spanish prisoners, but it is  
added, Major General Otis refuses to  
allow Spanish vessels to proceed to Phi-  
lipino ports to receive them.

BEECHAM'S PILLS—No equal for  
Constipation.

C. W. SEABRIGHT'S SON is en-  
deavoring to merit the patronage of old  
friends and the public generally.

## BARTO RECOMMEND

The Successor to the Late Circuit  
Judge, J. R. Paull.

## THE MEETING THIS MORNING

Will be Attended by Lawyers from  
all of the Pan Handle Counties.  
Ten or Twelve Gentlemen Have  
Been Suggested by Their Friends.  
Sentiment is that the Judgeship  
Should Come to Ohio County Again.

Acting with an appreciation of the  
seemliness of things which some news-  
papers seem not to have, the members  
of the bar of the four Pan Handle  
counties (the First judicial district)  
awaited Judge Paull's funeral before  
conducting a meeting at which to discuss  
a recommendation to Governor Atkinson  
regarding his successor. The meeting  
is to be held this morning at 9:30 o'clock  
at the court house, and will be attend-  
ed by nearly all the influential lawyers  
of the district.

Among the names that have been  
mentioned for the judgeship are those  
of Mr. William Erskine, of the law firm  
of Erskine & Allison, and Mr. B. F.  
Meighen, of Marshall county, both of  
whom were candidates for the Repub-  
lican nomination which went to Judge  
Hervey three years ago; Mr. Cyrus P.  
Flick, Governor Atkinson's law partner;  
Mr. G. R. E. Gilchrist, Major W. J. W.  
Cowden, late of the volunteer army;  
Mr. Sam O. Boyce, late city solicitor;  
ex-Judge Thayer Melvin, ex-Judge  
John A. Campbell, and several others.

From what could be learned last  
night, most of the lawyers agree that  
the judgeship ought to come to Ohio  
county, it being an unwritten law that  
one of the two judges be an Ohio county  
man. All of the gentlemen named are  
from this county except Judge Camp-  
bell and Mr. Meighen.

The governor's appointee will serve  
until after the next general election,  
November, 1900, when the law provides  
that the vacancy must be filled by elec-  
tion.

A Wheeling lawyer gave it as his  
opinion that the bar, at its meeting this  
morning, would recommend either Mr.  
Erskine or Mr. Flick.

## THE PYTHIAN HOSTS.

Meeting of the General Committee on  
Arrangements to be Held This Eve-  
ning—Grand Chancellor Posten is  
Coming.

This evening there will be an im-  
portant meeting of the Knights of Pythias  
grand lodge committee on arrange-  
ments, at which much of the work of  
arrangement for the approaching great  
gathering of Pythians from West Vir-  
ginia and the tri-state radius will be  
disposed of. Grand Chancellor S. A.  
Posten, of Morgantown, has written  
Secretary Roemer, of the committee, to  
the effect that he will arrive in Wheel-  
ing this afternoon and will attend to-  
night's meeting.

It is likely that the committee will  
instruct its press sub-committee to be-  
gin the issuing of a press bulletin, by  
which news of the coming affair will be  
furnished 100 or more daily papers in  
the tri-state radius.

There is still some uncertainty as to  
where the meetings of the grand lodge  
will be held. It was given out without  
authority a short time since that the  
sessions would be held in the I. O. O. F.  
hall, which is undoubtedly the most  
central available place, but there has  
now developed a sentiment among some  
of the local Pythians to hold the ses-  
sions at Black Prince's castle, at the  
corner of Chapline and Twenty-  
seventh streets. This move, however,  
will likely be opposed by the up-town  
lodges.

Bids are now being received by the  
council committee on lights for putting  
up the ten arches that will be a feature  
of the street illumination during Pythian  
week next month, and the contract  
will be awarded at a meeting of the  
committee to be held this evening.  
Understanding that the sessions of the  
grand lodge would be held at I. O. O. F.  
hall, the committee decided to locate  
one of the arches at the corner of  
Twelfth and Chapline streets. As there  
is doubt whether the sessions will be  
held there, and, further, as there will  
be no night sessions, a number of Pythians  
are endeavoring to have the com-  
mittee change the location of this par-  
ticular arch, and they have united on  
the corner of Market street and Alley  
10 (between Fourteenth and Sixteenth)  
as just the proper place for it. This  
would give six arches on Market street  
between Twelfth and Sixteenth, as fol-  
lows: Two at Market and Twelfth; one  
just above Alley 9 (put up by Ohio Val-  
ley lodge, K. of P.); one at Fourteenth,  
another at Alley 10, and the last at Six-  
teenth.

## DIED.

HOFFMANN—At Chicago, Ill., on Sun-  
day, September 17, 1899, LOTTIE,  
only child of Mrs. Kate Hoffmann, in  
the 24th year of her age.

Funeral will take place from the R. &  
O. depot on Wednesday morning at  
11:40 o'clock. Interment private at  
Greenwood cemetery.

## Louis Bertschy,

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## THE RIVER.

The marks at 6 p. m. showed 3 feet  
7 inches and falling. Weather, cloudy  
and cool.

The Lulu F., at 11 a. m., is to-day's  
packet for Matamoras.

The Ruth laid up at Sistersville last  
night on account of the low water.

Yesterday's departures included the  
Ruth, for Sistersville, at 3:30 p. m., and  
the Leroy, for Clarksburg, at 7 p. m.

Lulu F. will leave for Matamoras on  
Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 11  
a. m.

The T. M. Bayne did not come out in  
the Steubenville-Wheeling trade yes-  
terday, per announcement, owing to the  
unexpected fall in the river.

Messrs. Thomas and Urpman, owners  
of the new packet, which is to succeed  
the Leroy in the Wheeling-Clarksburg  
trade, got out a stem piece a few days  
ago from the interior of Monroe coun-  
ty. It was taken to Clarksburg, where  
the builders, Mozena Brothers, set a  
force of carpenters at work shaping it  
off. Soon an imperfection was discov-  
ered, and the piece of timber was  
promptly discarded, and a new one has  
been hewed from solid oak and will  
soon assume the graceful shape re-  
quired for what the new boat's owners  
declare they will have—the fastest boat  
on the Ohio.

## The Destructive Leech.

River leeches are endangering \$2,000-  
000 worth of coal now lying in the  
Pittsburgh harbor, the stretch of wa-  
ter that extends from the city down to  
Davis Island dam, six miles below the  
junction of the Monongahela and Al-  
legheny rivers. Coal men have been  
annoyed for many years by the preva-  
lence in the New Orleans harbor of the  
teredo, an insect whose boring propen-  
sities are the chief cause of the prospe-  
rity of the coal-barge builders along  
the upper Monongahela. Barges must  
often be broken up on account of the  
ravages of the teredo, which has the op-  
portunity to honeycomb the wood-  
work of the vessels during their fre-  
quent long stays at New Orleans while  
waiting for a remunerative coal mar-  
ket. Lately, however, a new and even  
worse danger has confronted coal bar-  
ges at this end of the river route.  
The teredo honeycombs the barges  
slowly, and inspection of the bottoms is  
so frequent that no coal has even been  
lost through the work of the teredo.  
The leeches, however, bore directly  
through the oakum-caulked seams, and  
constant pumping is necessary to pre-  
vent the barges from sinking.

Scientists have been consulted, and  
they offer various explanations. Some  
assert that the leech has found in oak-  
um a nourishing and appetizing food;  
others think the low water in the har-  
bor has become contaminated by sew-  
age, and that the leeches bore into the  
oakum in their efforts to escape. Still  
others contend that the contaminated  
water is responsible for the enormous  
increase in the number of leeches, and  
that the creatures, led by some instinct,  
find their way between the planking to  
enjoy the still greater corruption of the  
bilge water in the barges. Another  
group of scientific minds is satisfied  
that the little bloodsuckers find oakum  
burrowing a satisfactory avenue of es-  
cape from some enemy which the theo-  
rists are now striving to identify.

The owners of the coal are taking but  
little interest in these speculations.  
They are, however, losing sleep worry-  
ing about the damage to their property  
and the expense they have already  
been compelled to undergo. Every  
barge and "coal boat," the latter being  
a flat-bottomed, square-sided, cheaply  
built vessel holding twice as much as  
the barges and intended to be broken  
up and sold for lumber at New Orleans,  
is fitted out with one or two pumps.  
Usually the work of one man is suf-  
ficient to keep the whole fleet of barges  
and boats afloat, only an occasional  
spell at the pumps being required, but  
since the leeches began to work there  
came a change. First the regular  
spell at the handles was insufficient to  
keep the boats on top of the water and  
that hard work was necessary. In-  
cessant pumping being back-breaking  
exercise, and all labor traditions on the  
river containing no record that pump-  
ers had ever been obliged to do hard  
work, the men protested. Since their  
protest more hands have been put at  
the pumps, relieving each other in  
shifts, like sailors on a sinking ship.

The owners have paid out thousands  
of dollars and constantly fear that the  
barges may sink as it is impossible, of  
course, to do fresh calking while the  
boats are full of coal and lying in the  
river. The only salvation for the  
\$2,000,000 worth of coal is a rise in the  
river, which will enable the owners to  
float their product to the lower mar-  
kets. Meantime, the scientists are  
seeking the natural enemy of the leech.  
It is intended, if he be found, to peti-  
tion the war department, which con-  
trols the navigable streams, to enter  
upon artificial culture and distribute  
him in the river in the manner observed  
by the fish commission.

## River Telegrams.

OIL CITY—River at zero and sta-  
tionary. Weather, cloudy and warm.

MORGANTOWN—River 7 feet and  
stationary. Weather cloudy and warm.

## McFadden.



\$2.00  
RUBBER LINED  
CANVAS COATS FOR \$1.48.

Men's Rubber Lined Storm Coats, the  
black canvas water-proof working coat, that has the  
rubber lining all through coat, between the canvas  
and inside wool lining, making a strong, good wear-  
ing and warm coat, that turns wind, rain and snow,  
the best \$2.00 rubber lined coat, in all sizes, for  
only \$1.48.

Our Fall Underwear, Hats and Shoes are now ready.

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which pledges payment if the insured keeps it in force by payment of the  
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guarantees, if premium payments are discontinued, three methods of set-  
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1.....	for 1 years, 329 days.....	\$ 10	of \$ 95.54	for \$ 10	
2.....	for 2 years, 658 days.....	20	of 122.26	for 20	
3.....	for 3 years, 987 days.....	30	of 149.02	for 30	
4.....	for 4 years, 1316 days.....	40	of 175.78	for 40	
5.....	for 5 years, 1645 days.....	50	of 202.54	for 50	
6.....	for 6 years, 1974 days.....	60	of 229.30	for 60	
7.....	for 7 years, 2303 days.....	70	of 256.06	for 70	
8.....	for 8 years, 2632 days.....	80	of 282.82	for 80	
9.....	for 9 years, 2961 days.....	90	of 309.58	for 90	
10.....	for 10 years, 3290 days.....	100	of 336.34	for 100	
11.....	for 11 years, 3619 days.....	110	of 363.10	for 110	
12.....	for 12 years, 3948 days.....	120	of 389.86	for 120	
13.....	for 13 years, 4277 days.....	130	of 416.62	for 130	
14.....	for 14 years, 4606 days.....	140	of 443.38	for 140	
15.....	for 15 years, 4935 days.....	150	of 470.14	for 150	
16.....	for 16 years, 5264 days.....	160	of 496.90	for 160	
17.....	for 17 years, 5593 days.....	170	of 523.66	for 170	
18.....	for 18 years, 5922 days.....	180	of 550.42	for 180	
19.....	for 19 years, 6251 days.....	190	of 577.18	for 190	
20.....	for 20 years, 6580 days.....	1,000	of 1,000.00	for 1,000	